

"World Record Lifetime Milk Producer"

In Memory of Cow #289 Born 9/6/64 Died 5/1/84

Owner
M. G. Maciel and Son Dairy
Hanford, California

She was just simply called Number 289. Before her death in 1984, Number 289 was the world's most productive cow. The 19 year-old "grade" Holstein cow gave more milk than any other cow in the world. During her lifetime she produced more than 54,070 gallons of milk, enough to fill more than eight 60-foot tanker trucks. This is about seven gallons of milk per day. Number 289 lived nearly four times longer than the average Holstein cow, and produced more than nine times the amount of milk the average cow would give in her lifetime.

There was only one registered Holstein cow from Ohio, known as "Breezewood Patsy Bar Pontiac," who was very competitive to Number 289 by producing 425,769 pounds of milk in her lifetime. About three years before Number 289 died she took over the undisputed title of being the highest milk producer by producing 465,224 pounds of milk.

Number 289 gave birth to 13 calves, 11 were bulls. The memory of Number 289 lives on with the people around the world who endeavor to achieve improved productivity. She set an admirable benchmark.

Number 289 is buried right next to the milking barn where she gave so much milk. A plaque memorializing her achievement was placed over her grave and the tag bearing her Number 289 has been retired, never to be used again.